

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed December 14, 2005 has been reviewed and carefully considered. Claims 13-16 are added. Claims 1 and 2 are canceled without prejudice. Claims 3-16 are pending, claims 8-12 having been withdrawn from consideration. Claim 3 is redrafted into independent form without further revision. Regarding the claims being examined, claim 3 is the independent claim. Claims 5 and 6 are amended to update dependency from claim 1 to claim 3. Reconsideration of the above identified application, as amended and in view of the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication 2002/0097508 to Wada et al. ("Wada").

Claim 3, now redrafted into independent form, recites, ". . . the first and second lenses are bonded together with the first and second curved surfaces opposite to each other, the first and second lenses each having a flat rear surface and the first and second curved surface are on respective front surfaces."

The Office Action cites to FIG. 11(a) in Wada.

Wada discloses, in FIG. 11(a), touching lenses with respective front surfaces that are curved, but the front surfaces are not "opposite to each other."

For at least this reason, Wada fails to anticipate the present invention as

recited in claim 3.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Nor do the present applicants see how Wada could obviously have been modified to result in an embodiment within claim 3.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,870,693 to Ito.

Claim 1 is now canceled. The instant ground of rejection is, for at least this reason, therefore believed to be moot.

Claims 5-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Wada.

Claims 5-7 depend from claim 1, which has been shown to distinguish patentably over Wada and likewise distinguish patentably over Wada.

It is noted, in addition, that Wada does not disclose the aspects specific to the language of claims 5-7. The standard for assessing obviousness necessarily involves the concept of combining one element with another, and the Office Action does not seem to cover this point. Also, if the Office Action intended to take Official Notice, it is the opinion of the instant applicants that any such fact has not properly been officially noticed (see MPEP 2144.03(C)). Notably and by way of example, use of the anti-reflective coating or semiconductor material in the claimed invention and according to

the claim would not have been obvious. In addition, it is unclear what the Office Action means by "lens parameters." Official Notice is not properly used unless the facts noticed are capable of immediate and unquestionable demonstration.

New claims 13 and 14 find support in FIG. 3 and accompanying text in the specification.

New claims 15 and 16 find support in the specification (e.g., page 6, lines 3-4) and in FIG. 3.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned in the event of any perceived outstanding issues so that passage of the case to issue can be effected without the need for a further Office Action.

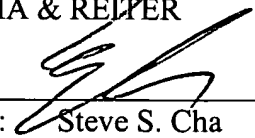
Amendment
Serial No. 10/730,594

Docket No. 5000-1-489

In the event that any additional fee is required to continue the prosecution
of this Application as requested, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 502-470.

Respectfully submitted,

CHA & REITER


By: Steve S. Cha
Attorney for Applicant

Date: March 14, 2006

Mail all correspondence to:
Steve S. Cha
CHA & REITER
210 Route 4 East, #103
Hackensack, NJ 07652
Phone: (201) 226-9245
Fax: (201) 226-9246

SC/dr

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Steve Cha, Reg. No. 44,069
(Name of Registered Rep.)


(Signature and Date)